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WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
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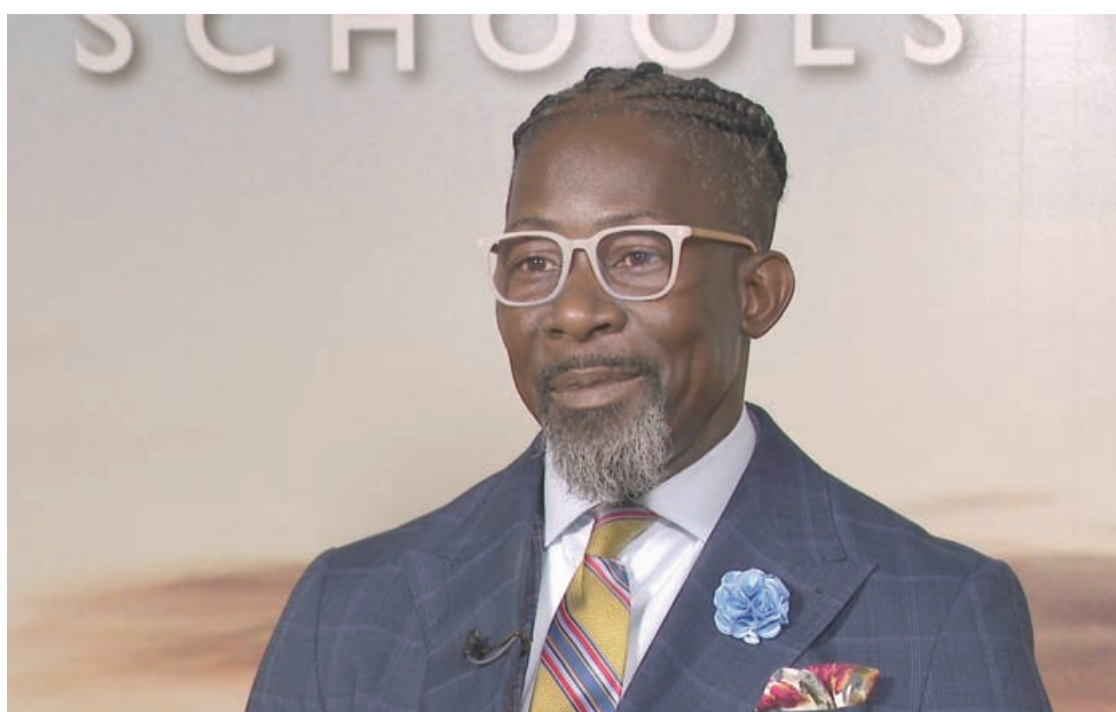
Officials place Des Moines schools leader on leave after his arrest by immigration agents

By SCOTT McFETRIDGE
Associated Press
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Officials put the leader of Iowa's largest school district on administrative leave Saturday, a day after federal immigration agents arrested him because they said he was in the country illegally.

The Des Moines school board voted unanimously to place Superintendent Ian Roberts on paid leave during a three-minute-long special meeting. The board said Roberts was not available to carry out his duties for the 30,000-student district and stated that officials would reassess his status after getting more information.

After the meeting, school board president Jackie Norris read a statement, saying word of Roberts' arrest Friday made for a "jarring day" but noting that board members still didn't have all the facts.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said agents detained Roberts because he was in the country illegally, didn't have authorization to work and was subject to a final removal order issued in 2024. ICE agents stopped Roberts while he was driving a school-issued vehicle, and the agency said he then fled into a wooded area before being apprehended with help from Iowa State Patrol officers.



This photo provided by WOI Local 5 News in September 2025 shows Des Moines schools Superintendent Ian Roberts.

(WOI Local 5 News via AP)

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He was held in the Woodbury County Jail in Sioux City, in northwest Iowa, about 150 miles from Des Moines.

"I want to be clear, no one here was aware of any citizenship or immigration issues that Dr. Roberts may have been facing," Norris said.

"The accusations ICE had made against Dr. Roberts are very serious, and we are taking them very seriously," Norris said. Roberts has retained a Des Moines law firm to represent him. Lawyer Alfredo Parrish confirmed his firm was representing Roberts but declined to comment on his case. Norris also repeated that the district had done a background check on Roberts before he was hired that didn't indicate any problems and that he signed a form affirming he was a U.S. citizen. A company that aided in the search for a superintendent in 2023 also hired another firm to conduct "comprehensive criminal, credit and background checks" on Roberts that didn't indicate any citizenship issues, Norris said.

Also Saturday, the Iowa Department of Education released a statement saying Roberts stated he was a U.S. citizen when he applied for an administrator license.

The department said the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners conducted a criminal history check with state and federal authorities before issuing a license. The department said it is reviewing the Des Moines district's hiring procedures for ensuring people are authorized to work in the U.S. Roberts had previously said he was born to immigrant parents from Guyana and spent much of his childhood in Brooklyn, New York. He competed in the 2000 Olympics in track and field for Guyana. ICE said he entered the U.S. on a student visa in 1999.

A former senior Guyanese police official on Saturday remembered Roberts as a middle-distance runner who could have risen through the ranks of the South American country's police force had he not emigrated to the U.S. decades ago.

Retired assistant Guyana Police Force commissioner Paul Slowe said Roberts entered the Police Force after graduating from the country's standard military officers' course. "He served for a few years and then left. He was not dismissed or dishonorably discharged at all; he just moved on," Slowe told The Associated Press. "He was a good, promising and disciplined man." □

Trump will speak at a hastily-called meeting of top military leaders, AP source says

By **CHRIS MEGERIAN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump will speak at a hastily called meeting of top military leaders on Tuesday, according to a White House official.

Hundreds of generals and admirals — senior commanders of the one-star rank or higher and their top advisers — have been summoned by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth from all over the world to the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, with little notice.

The White House official was not authorized to discuss the president's plans before a public announcement about his attendance and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Trump told NBC News in an interview Sunday that they would be "talking about how well we're doing militarily,



President Donald Trump gestures as he arrives at the White House, Friday, Sept. 26, 2025, in Washington.

(AP Photo/Julia Demaree Nikhinson)

talking about being in great shape, talking about a lot of good, positive things."

News about the meeting broke Thursday, and no reason was initially provided

for the unusual gathering. Trump didn't seem to know about it when first asked by reporters during an Oval Office appearance.

"I'll be there if they want me,

but why is it such a big deal?" Trump said.

The official said the president's participation was not part of the original plan for the meeting but that he decided that he wanted to go. Trump's participation in the meeting raises the likelihood of a politicized event in front of a nonpartisan audience of military leaders. For example, he delivered campaign-style remarks to uniformed personnel at Fort Bragg in North Carolina in June, attacking his Democratic predecessor, Joe Biden.

The Republican president is also expanding his use of the military in American cities, arguing that it's necessary to fight crime in places where Democratic leaders are failing to ensure public safety. The National Guard continues to patrol in the District of Columbia, and a smaller deployment is expected in

Memphis, Tennessee. On Saturday, Trump said he would also send troops to Portland, Oregon, to protect against "domestic terrorists." Over the objections of local and state officials, Trump previously sent the National Guard and active-duty Marines to Los Angeles, where there were protests against immigration raids.

The Pentagon's top spokesman has previously confirmed that Hegseth "will be addressing his senior military leaders early next week."

Across the military, there are 800 generals and admirals of all ranks. Many command thousands of service members and are stationed across the world in more than a dozen countries and time zones.

The Washington Post first reported on Trump's plans to attend the upcoming meeting. □

1 person dead and 9 injured in a shooting and fire at a Michigan church, police say

By **ISABELLA VOLMERT and COREY WILLIAMS**

Associated Press

GRAND BLANC TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — A gunman opened fire inside a Mormon church in Michigan during Sunday services before apparently setting the building ablaze, killing at least one person and injuring nine before police shot him, authorities said.

Hundreds of people were inside The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Grand Blanc Township when a 40-year-old man rammed a pickup truck through the front door, then got out of the vehicle and started shooting, Police Chief William Renye told reporters. Police believe he "deliberately" set the building on fire.

After the suspect left the church, two officers pursued him and "engaged in gunfire," Renye said. The man was killed.

Flames and smoke could be seen pouring from the church for hours before the blaze was put out. First responders were then sifting

through the wreckage.

"We do believe we will find some additional victims once we find the area where the fire was," Renye said. Police said they did not yet have a motive for the fire or shooting. Investigators are searching the suspect's residence in nearby Burton. Authorities did not provide any additional details about the suspect, including whether he was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, widely known as the Mormon church.

It was the latest of many shooting attacks on houses of worship in the U.S. over the past 20 years, including one in August that killed two children during Mass at the Church of the Annunciation in Minneapolis.

President Donald Trump said he was briefed on the shooting. In a social media post, he applauded the FBI, who local authorities said are sending 100 agents to the area, for responding.

"PRAY for the victims, and their families. THIS EPIDEMIC OF VIOLENCE IN OUR

COUNTRY MUST END, IMMEDIATELY!" Trump wrote.

The church building, circled by a parking lot and a large lawn, is near residential areas and a Jehovah's Witness church. It is in Grand Blanc Township, a community of roughly 40,000 people outside Flint. The impact spread quickly to neighboring communities, including the small city that shares a name with the township.

"Although we are two separate governmental units, we are a very cohesive community," said city of Grand Blanc Mayor John Creasey. "This sort of thing is painful for our entire community. I'm struggling to digest all that has happened, and my heart goes out to all of the affected families." Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said in a statement that her heart was breaking for the community. "Violence anywhere especially in a place of worship, is unacceptable," she said.

The shooting occurred the morning after Russell M. Nelson, the oldest-ever



Law enforcement guard the area along McCandlish Road near a shooting that took place at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025, in Grand Blanc, Mich.

(AP Photo/Jose Juarez)

president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, died at 101. The next president of the faith is expected to be Dallin H. Oaks, per church protocol. "The church is in communication with local law enforcement as the investigation continues and as we receive updates on the condition of those affected," Doug Anderson, a spokesperson for Utah-based faith said in a statement.

"Places of worship are

meant to be sanctuaries of peacemaking, prayer and connection. We pray for peace and healing for all involved."

Some striking nurses at nearby Henry Ford Hospital left the picket line and ran the short distance to the church to help first responders, Teamsters Local 332 President Dan Glass learned about the shooting.

"Human lives matter more than our labor dispute," Glass said. □

New York City Mayor Eric Adams abandons his reelection campaign

By **JAKE OFFENHARTZ AND ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Mayor Eric Adams ended his struggling reelection campaign Sunday, an acknowledgment that he was no longer a serious contender in the contest after a year of scandal and political turmoil.

In a video released on social media, Adams spoke of his achievements as mayor, including a drop in violent crime. But he said "constant media speculation" about his future and a decision by the city's campaign finance board to withhold public funding from his reelection effort made it impossible to stay in the race.

"Despite all we've achieved, I cannot continue my reelection campaign," he said.

Adams did not directly mention or endorse any of the remaining candidates in the race, but he warned of "insidious forces" using local government to "advance divisive agendas."

"Major change is welcome and necessary, but beware of those who claim the answer (is) to destroy the very system we built over generations," he said. "That is not change, that is chaos. Instead, I urge leaders to choose leaders not by what they promise, but by what they have delivered." Adams capitulation could potentially provide a lift to the campaign of former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a fellow centrist who portrayed himself as the only candidate potentially able to beat the Democratic Party's nominee, state Assemblymember Zohran Mamdani.

It was unclear, though, whether enough of Adams supporters would shift their allegiances to Cuomo to make a difference.

Mamdani, at 33, would be the city's youngest and most liberal mayor in generations if elected. He beat Cuomo decisively in the Democratic primary by campaigning on a promise try to lower the cost of living in one of the world's most expensive cities.



NYC mayor Eric Adams attends the ceremony to mark the 24th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025, in New York.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Three remaining candidates

In a statement released after Adams' announcement, Mamdani took aim at Cuomo.

"New York deserves better than trading in one disgraced, corrupt politician for another. On November 4th, we are going to turn the page on the politics of big money and small ideas and deliver a government every New Yorker can be proud of," Mamdani said.

Cuomo, in a statement on social media, praised Adams for "putting the well-being of New York City ahead of personal ambition."

He also did not mention Mamdani by name, but echoed Adams' warning about unspecified "extremist forces."

"We face destructive extremist forces that would devastate our city through incompetence or ignorance, but it is not too late to stop them," Cuomo said. Republican Curtis Sliwa also remains in the race, though his candidacy has been undercut from within his own party; Trump in a recent interview called him "not exactly prime time."

Rough showing in polls

Speculation that Adams wouldn't make it to Elec-

tion Day has been rampant for a year. His campaign was severely wounded by his now-dismissed federal bribery case and liberal anger over his warm relationship with President Donald Trump. He skipped the Democratic primary and got on the ballot as an independent.

Polls conducted in early September illustrated his challenges. One poll by The New York Times and Siena University and another by Quinnipiac University showed likely voters favoring Mamdani over Cuomo, with Sliwa and Adams trailing further behind.

The Quinnipiac poll suggested the gap between Mamdani and Cuomo could narrow if Adams dropped out. The Times/Siena poll suggested that if both Adams and Sliwa withdrew, Mamdani's advantage over Cuomo could shrink even further.

Sliwa, though, has repeatedly insisted he will not quit. "Curtis Sliwa is the only candidate who can defeat Mamdani," his spokesperson, Daniel Kurzyrna, said Sunday.

In recent weeks, Trump administration intermediaries interested in blocking Mamdani's path to victory by getting him into a one-on-one matchup with Cuomo had approached Ad-

ams to see if he could be coaxed out of the contest with an offer of a government job.

Amid reports on those discussions, Adams called a news conference where he pledged to keep running and derided Cuomo and Mamdani as "spoiled brats." Later, on social media, Adams called Cuomo "a liar and a snake."

Indictment overshadows progress

Adams, 65, is the city's second Black mayor. A former New York City police captain and Brooklyn borough president, he took office in 2022 promising to crack down on crime and revitalize a city still bouncing back from the coronavirus pandemic.

On his signature issue, he succeeded. Crime rates that ticked upward after COVID-19 hit the city have fallen back to pre-pandemic levels, though it is unclear how much that had to do with Adams' policies.

But scandals and corruption probes have crippled Adams' chances at another term.

Over a head-spinning period of weeks last year, his police commissioner, schools chancellor and several deputy mayors resigned following a series

of federal raids on their homes. None have faced criminal charges.

Then, in late September, federal prosecutors brought fraud and bribery charges accusing Adams of accepting illegal campaign contributions and steep travel discounts from a Turkish official and others in exchange for accelerating the opening of Turkey's diplomatic building, among other favors.

Trump intervenes

Adams denied wrongdoing and pledged to remain in office. But he also began speaking warmly about Trump, then seen as having a growing chance of regaining the White House. He defended Trump in media briefings, urged his party to tone down rhetoric against the Republican and refrained from criticizing him.

After Trump won, Adams met with Trump's border czar, Thomas Homan.

Then, in February, Trump's Justice Department ordered federal prosecutors in New York to drop the charges against Adams so the mayor could assist with the Republican president's immigration agenda.

The extraordinary intervention triggered fresh tumult in City Hall and the Manhattan U.S. Attorney's Office, with some of Adams' closest allies suggesting he had struck a deal with the White House for his freedom.

Adams announced he would skip the June Democratic primary but would stay in the race.

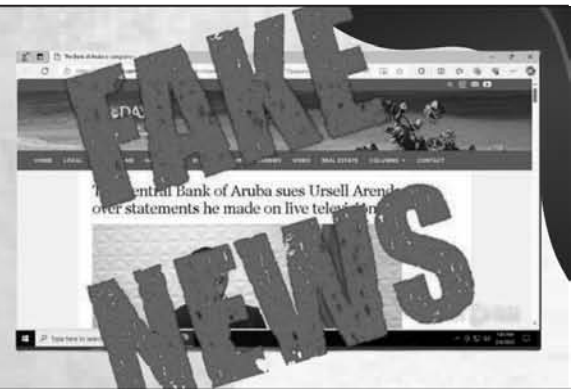
In late August, Adams former top adviser — who served as a campaign volunteer — was hit with fresh bribery charges. Another former aide was removed from the campaign after handing a potato chip bag full of cash to a local reporter.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul, who has endorsed Mamdani, said after Adams' announcement that she has been proud to have worked with him for the past four years, adding in her statement that he leaves the city "better than he inherited it." □

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Body of young migrant found on French beach as crossings to UK rise

PARIS (AP) — French authorities announced the discovery Sunday of a body on a beach used as one of the launch points for migrants attempting the perilous sea crossing from northern France to the U.K. on flimsy inflatable boats.

The prefecture of northern France's Pas-de-Calais region said the body of a young man, "very likely" a migrant who had attempted the crossing overnight, was found Sunday morning on the long sandy beaches south of the port town of Boulogne-sur-Mer.

Attempted crossings and deaths have surged in recent days. The prefecture previously reported that two women died Saturday during a separate attempt to cross the English Channel. In less than 48 hours since Friday night, authorities counted 41 crossing attempts, some of them thwarted,



Migrants board a small boat to reach Britain, in Gravelines, northern France, France, Friday, Sept. 19, 2025.

along the Pas-de-Calais coastline that police patrol day and night, the prefecture said in a statement. "The pressure along the coast is intense with extremely high numbers of departures. Law enforcement is intervening under particularly difficult conditions, marked by hos-

tility and sometimes violence from migrants determined to leave at all costs," the statement said. But French police have previously also been observed using knives to slash and sink the inflatable boats of migrants who put up little or no resistance.

(AP Photo/Jean-Francois Badias)

The two women who died Saturday morning were found in cardiac arrest following a failed attempt to cross the English Channel on a boat that drifted after its engine wouldn't start, the Pas-de-Calais prefecture said. It said that rescuers' efforts to revive them were

unsuccessful. Britain's government is under heavy pressure to tackle the growing number of migrants — many of them from Africa and the Middle East seeking a better life in Europe — embarking on the dangerous journey to the U.K. Unauthorized migration has been a problem for some years but has risen to the top of the political agenda in recent months.

More than 32,000 people have arrived in the U.K. by boat so far this year, figures show, and the full-year number is expected to surpass last year's 37,000. Dozens have died in recent years trying to cross one of the world's busiest shipping lanes in overcrowded dinghies. Britain's government hopes that a deal with French officials, which aims to deport migrants who enter the country without authorization to France, will reduce the crossings. □

Denmark reports new drone sightings at armed forces' locations. NATO boosts Baltic Sea vigilance

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Denmark's defense ministry said Sunday that it had again observed drones at several of its armed forces' locations overnight, a day after the NATO alliance announced that it would enhance its vigilance in the Baltic Sea region.

The ministry said in a statement that it had "several capacities deployed" after drone sightings from Saturday into Sunday night. It didn't offer any further details about the specifics of the deployment, the number of drones or locations.

This is the latest unexplained drone activity after several sightings, including over five Danish airports last week, raising concerns about security in northern Europe amid

suspected growing Russian aggression.

Following a NATO meeting in Riga, Latvia, on Saturday, Col. Martin O'Donnell, the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe spokesman, announced that "we will conduct even more enhanced vigilance with new multi-domain assets in the Baltic Sea region, which includes Denmark, under Baltic Sentry."

He also said that NATO leaders were in constant contact with Danish officials following the drone sightings.

As Denmark gears up for the upcoming European Union Summit in Copenhagen, the Danish transportation ministry said Sunday that "all civilian drone flying in Danish airspace will be

prohibited" from Monday to Friday to "remove the risk that enemy drones can be confused with legal drones and vice versa." "We cannot accept that foreign drones create uncertainty and disturbances in society, as we have experienced recently. At the same time, Denmark will host EU leaders in the coming week, where we will have extra focus on security," Danish transportation minister Thomas Danielsen said in a statement.

"A violation of the prohibition can result in a fine or imprisonment for up to two years," according to the statement. The prohibition does not apply to military drone flights, drones used by state aviation, including police and emergency drone opera-



A mobile radar installation is seen at the Danish military site on Amager, Pionegaarden, near the village of Dragoer and on the coast of Oresund, the sea between Denmark and Sweden, on Friday, Sept. 26, 2025.

(Steven Knap/Ritzau Scanpix via AP)

tions, as well as municipal and regional emergency and health-related drone operations. On Sunday afternoon, the

Danish defense ministry announced that the German air defense frigate, FSG Hamburg, had arrived in Copenhagen. □

The Taliban release a US citizen from Afghan prison

By RIAZAT BUTT Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The Taliban on Sunday freed a U.S. citizen from an Afghan prison, weeks after they said they had reached an agreement with U.S. envoys on a prisoner exchange as part of an effort to normalize relations.

The deputy spokesperson for the Taliban Foreign Ministry, Zia Ahmad Takal, identified the man as Amir Amiri. He did not say when Amiri was detained, why, or where.

An official with knowledge of the release said Amiri had been detained in Afghanistan since December 2024 and was on his way back to the U.S. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the details with the media. Qatar facilitated Amiri's release in the latest diplomatic achievement resulting from its security partnership with the U.S. that has secured the freedom of four other Americans from Taliban detention this year. The energy-rich nation on the Arabian Peninsula also helped in releasing a British couple who were impris-



In this photo released by Qatar's Foreign Ministry, U.S. citizen Amir Amiri, left, poses next to an unidentified woman, aboard a plane in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025, after being released from an Afghan prison. With him, from right, are a Qatari diplomat, Deputy Assistant to the U.S. President Sebastian Gorka, and U.S. Special Envoy for Hostage Response Adam Boehler. (Qatar Foreign Ministry via AP)

oned for months.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio welcomed Amiri's release, saying it marked the administration's determination, reinforced by U.S. President Donald Trump's recent executive order, to protect American nationals from wrongful detention

abroad.

"While this marks an important step forward, additional Americans remain unjustly detained in Afghanistan. President Trump will not rest until all our captive citizens are back home."

Ahmad Habibi, the brother of Mahmood Habibi, a U.S.

citizen held by the Taliban for more than three years, said he and his family were grateful to hear the news about Amiri, and they remained hopeful that Mahmood would also return home.

Mahmood Habibi, an Afghan-American business

owner, worked as a contractor for a Kabul-based telecommunications company and vanished in 2022. The FBI and his family have said they believe he was taken by the Taliban, who have denied holding him.

"We are grateful that senior officials at the State Department and National Security Council have repeatedly assured us that any deal they do with the Taliban will be 'all or nothing' and they have explicitly assured us that they will not leave my brother behind," Ahmad Habibi said.

It remains unclear what the Taliban receive in exchange for freeing U.S. nationals. But Afghanistan's needs are many.

The international aid money that flowed into the country after the 2001 U.S.-led invasion is drying up even as economic and humanitarian crises mount, particularly after a magnitude-6 earthquake on Aug. 31.

But Afghanistan remains a focus for Trump, who has said he wants to retake Bagram Air Base, a massive former U.S. military facility, a demand rejected by senior Taliban officials. □

Families of Mexico's 43 disappeared students demand truth and justice 11 years later



Demonstrators march to mark the 11th anniversary of the disappearance of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers' College, in Mexico City, Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. (AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

By MARÍA VERZA Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The words "truth and justice" rang out from crowds of protesters flooding a central boulevard in Mexico City on Friday, just as they have every Sept. 26

since the disappearance of 43 Mexican students that shook the country in 2014. Friday's protest came exactly 11 years after students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers' College in the southern state of Guerrero vanished in

2014. Authorities believe the students were abducted in the town of Iguala as they traveled by bus to Mexico City for a protest and killed by members of a criminal cartel with ties to government and military officials. The case has fueled deep distrust of authorities because of a government cover-up that followed by investigators who created a parallel version of events. Despite dozens of people — including a former attorney general, local officials, military and police officers — being arrested in connection with the case, no one has ever been convicted.

Because of that, the case has become a symbol for ongoing corruption, cartel violence and the plight of the more than 133,000 disappeared people in Mexico.

The number 43 and the faces of the students continue to dot the country's capital in monuments and graffiti as a constant reminder of one the greatest crimes in Mexico's modern history.

While authorities say investigations are ongoing, families of victims protesting on Friday said they still don't have clarity over what happened to their loved ones, something that infuses their cries for justice with more pain every year.

"After 11 years, the demand remains the same: their whereabouts; the truth, however painful it may be; and justice," said Hilda Hernández, mother of César Manuel González, in a video where several relatives invited Mexicans to march with them on Friday.

That's why indignation often

erupts at protests, such as one Thursday outside a military base in the capital that ended with a truck rammed into one of its gates and then set on fire.

Since 2022, relatives have demanded that the armed forces hand over hundreds of documents that could be key to clarifying the case, but the military has not done so.

On Friday, downtown Mexico City was heavily guarded to try to prevent any outbursts.

The Ayotzinapa case has been considered a "state crime" since 2022, because prosecutors say the youths were attacked by police colluding with a local cartel that trafficked heroin, acting in complicity with local, state and federal officials, including the military. □

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Visit the island's hidden natural pools

(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.

Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura di Turtuga (Turtle’s Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you’re up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you’ve completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It’s also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

Cave Pool

This relatively new pool appeared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral cliff floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hid-



den there. Because it’s still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop

for touring visitors.

When you get there, maybe you won’t be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern waves crash into each other. Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you’ll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there,

you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the instructions of your tour guide if you have one.

And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

Picture of cave pool is credited to RockaBeach Tours

Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!

(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!

These “coconut stands” can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas
- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach (Near the Ling & Song Supermarket)



Wherever he may go to after Aruba, he will always continue to return to Aruba "Aruba is not just an island, it is paradise"



ORANJESTAD – Rabbi Baruch Zeilicovich of the Beth Israel Aruba synagogue relates on what he experienced in Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico he went to perform his mission in community work, prior to going to the United States to Fort Worth Texas in 1994.

In Puerto Rico, he worked with the Governor and Senator of the island where he developed an extensive program for the schools on the subject of violence on television. The program is still widely used to this day. In addition, a video in which children and young people are seen looking at the television observing lots of violence on display and how this impacted society and the communities later on. The objective of this video was to minimize the impact of violence on television. In doing so, we achieved the rating of "rate the rates programs" geared towards children younger than 13 years of age.

"Subsequently I went to Ferland New Jersey,



where I remained for 10 years. There I worked in a large inter-confessional group of church-

es. In doing so, I received recognition for that work. Thereafter I was approached by the Latin American Seminar of Rabbis as they were organizing a ceremony of Ordaining Rabbis. In other words, 4 persons obtained the title of Rabbi and at the same ceremony the Seminary awarded three Honorary Doctorate titles to three Rabbis, of which I was one."

Rabbi Baruch Zeilicovich has been serving the Aruban community for three years now and has one year left to complete his time here. He has been coming to Aruba since 1990, in view of the fact that he owns a time share on the island. After coming to Aruba consecutively for 15 years, the Ministry of Tourism of Aruba gave him recognition as they do all others who come consecutively every year. His family received the certificate of "Friends of Aruba." In other words, for Rabbi Zeilicovich, Aruba is his second home, he expressed.

Once he has served his time in Aruba as Rabbi, he has to make a decision. Either he returns to the United States where his children and grandchildren reside, or maybe he moves to Israel, which is also an option. He has yet to decide. One thing is sure, and that is that we will not do without returning to Aruba since we have three weeks of time share which we are not going to let go lost. Remember, Aruba is not just an island, it is a part of "Paradise," Rabbi Zeilicovich reiterated. □



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The legend of the Kibrahacha tree

ORANJESTAD—The Kibrahacha is a famous tree known locally for its bright, yellow flowers that blooms for just three days. Scientifically known as *Tabebuia billbergii*, and in English as the Yellow Poui, this tree is native to the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao, and is considered among locals as one of the most spectacular trees on the island. But did you also know that the beautiful yellow flowers have a story behind them?

The Kibrahacha is said to have extremely hard wood—so hard that it can break an axe. In fact, that's what its name means in Papiamentu: "kibra" (break) "hacha" (axe). The flowers bloom around April and May, but this only last for about three days, as the flowers start to fall off and the tree starts growing its green leaves. The Kibrahacha is especially particular, as it's the only one among its neighboring trees to start blooming first.

The legend of the Kibrahacha Written by Hubert (Lio Boo)

One day Aterima, who lived west of the hill Sero Warawara, woke up one day to find her father sleeping in his hammock, suffering a bout of terrible fever. Her mother was very worried, and as was the custom in the olden days, asked Aterima to go fetch Kudawechea, who was a epistemophile, to come see his father.

Aterima wasted no time and went to go fetch

Kudawechea. Upon telling Kudawechea that her father was sick, he immediately accompanied Aterima back to her hut, where he encountered her father in a bad state. Not willing to waste any time, he told Aterima that the only thing that can cure her father is a home-made potion made out of the Kibrahacha flower. At the time the Kibrahacha was not yet in her blooming season, but the stubborn Kudawechea was determined to bring back Aterima's father back to health, and so off they went to the nearest Kibrahacha tree.

When they arrived at the tree, they saw that it was covered head to toe in thorns, with only a few closed flowers at the very top. Kudawechea, experienced veteran in all things Aruban flora and fauna, told Aterima to start plucking the thorns of the tree to climb to the top where the flowers are. Aterima, just as determined to save her father, didn't hesitate to start.

To her surprise, every time she plucked a thorn of the tree, a bright, yellow flower bloomed in its place. The thorns were hard to pluck out, but Aterima continued plucking with enthusiasm and wonder at the unfolding sight before her. Not too long after she was able to fill her entire satchel with the yellow flowers.

Kudawechea, satisfied to see Aterima so happy and encouraged to help her father, took her back to her hut.

Upon arriving back at the hut, Aterima's moth-



er quickly made a tea out of the flowers and gave it to her sick husband. Miraculously, after just one sip of the tea, the father's fever left his body immediately, and he opened eyes and sprung up feeling new.

The next morning, they all visited the same Kibrahacha tree that saved the life of Aterima's father and they saw another miracle. The tree was covered again in the same bright, yellow flowers, with not a thorn in sight. And as the legend goes, from that day on, the Kibrahacha tree no longer produced any more thorns. □

Wild birds in Aruba



ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation focuses on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful pictures

of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundations Facebook page.

The Great Egret

Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful

things start happening in nature.

Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started moving southwards as early as July. This wetland beauty wants to keep its toes warm. Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowlegs rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochon

In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight. A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male)
Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannetje).

Aruba's to enjoy. Aruba's to protect. □

Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

ORANJESTAD—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.

Pineapple



Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pineapple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa* with it. It is said that this tea can also

Arrowroot



Arrowroot is native to tropical America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a “shal-up” (porridge) for stomach pain or when you’re feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw arrowroot powder can be used to powder babies.



Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly; let it mix with your spit and then swallow. □

Eggplant kataplan* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis.

***warapa:** term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.

***kataplan:** porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen.



ORANJESTAD – Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you’ll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Ayo

Ajo, or Ayo, is a word with Arawak-Indian origin. A (or Ha) is an Indo-Antillean gen-

Aruba’s neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names; Ayo & Alto Vista

eralizing word. If you were to change a part of the word “Ayo”, namely ‘Yo’, to ‘Yu’ and make ‘Ayu’, it would mean “white.”

However, as we now know, the name of the neighborhood is ‘Ayo’. The word ‘Yo’ stands for Yocahu, which is another word for ‘creator’ in Arawak/Taino and in the Papiamentu spoken today, ‘Ayo’ means ‘bye’.

At Ayo, you can find some of the most well known rock formations. These formations became a well loved and visited attraction at Aruba that is held in high regards by both tourists and locals alike.

If you’d like to know more about the rock formations at Ayo, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all about

its location and history.

This neighborhood’s abbreviation is; A.

Alto Vista

This word combination can be roughly translated to a ‘high point of view’ and the neighborhood received this name from the Hill.

In the surrounding areas, Domingo Antonia Silvestre built his by his own means the very first chapel or church of Aruba. The walls of this church were made with rocks but the roof was made of dry corn stalks. The church was inaugurated by father Pablo Algemesi.

If you’d like to know more about the Alto Vista Church’s beautiful history, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all you need to know about it for when you visit it.

This neighborhood’s abbreviation is; AV. □



Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet



Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.



Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So,

the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.

Prohibited by law: leaving the island with seashells, white sand or corals



ORANJESTAD—Often times, the customs department at the airport intercepts many tourists leaving the island with seashells, white sand and/or corals as souvenirs.

Conforming to the international treaty of CITES and our local law which protects our Flora & Fauna, it is absolutely prohibited to take any seashell, sand and coral outside of Aruba. This is to protect our environment. The high number of sea-

shells, coral and amount of sand confiscated is very strange and it is suspected that our own locals are the ones selling these to the tourists, which is unacceptable.

Upon confiscation at the airport, you can also face a fine that they have to pay before leaving. This is surely not a pleasant experience for the tourist. This also leads to a negative reaction which can put our tourism in a negative light. Though we love to accommodate

our visitors, let's all give nature the respect it deserves by protecting our environment. Stop collecting seashells, white sand and corals from our shores and stop buying or accepting these from local sellers or companies.

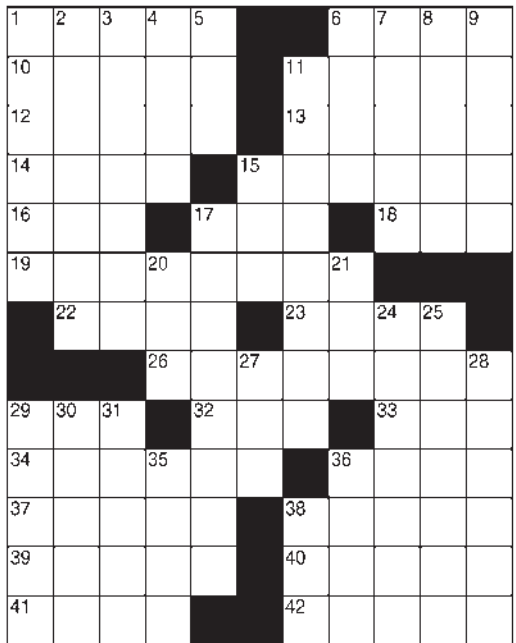
We want our future generations and visitors to enjoy the beauty of our beaches, shells and corals in a sustainable way, without destroying or disrupting the Aruban ecosystem. Help us protect what is ours! □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Fiddler's need
6 Overturn
10 Cider fruit
11 Shrek's love
12 Rock formed from clay
13 Bring on
14 Stock holders
15 Make happy
16 Yale rooter
17 Director Burton
18 Was a pioneer
19 SOS indication
22 Sailor's call
23 The Emerald Isle
26 Young lady
29 June honoree
32 Greek consonants
33 Serving feat
34 Grove fruit
36 Scheme
37 Lover of drama
38 Greek consonant
39 Clarifying words
- 40 Snowy wader
41 Play group
42 Gander's mate
- DOWN
- 1 Sounded hoarse
2 She loved Hamlet
3 La Paz language
4 Miseries
5 Once known as
6 Excellent
7 From the area
8 Not available
9 Did kitchen work
11 Scenes of a lot of shooting
15 Cobbler's cousin
17 Checking for fit
20 Male cat
21 Polite address
24 No slacker
25 Houdini feats
27 Take to court
28 Capitol group
29 Column type
30 Fra-grance
31 Titled women
35 Dapper
36 When repeated, a Samoan city
38 Beer container



10-4

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-4

CRYPTOQUOTE

F M A Q U F M B Q Z F B O G .

C P O Q H J M B P Z F S U .

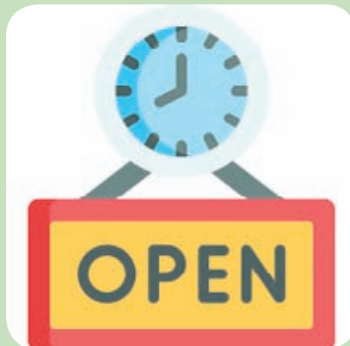
— Y Q J R O I J M B
Cryptoquote: ALL I'VE GOT IS ME.
AND THAT IS ENOUGH. — VIOLA DAVIS

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



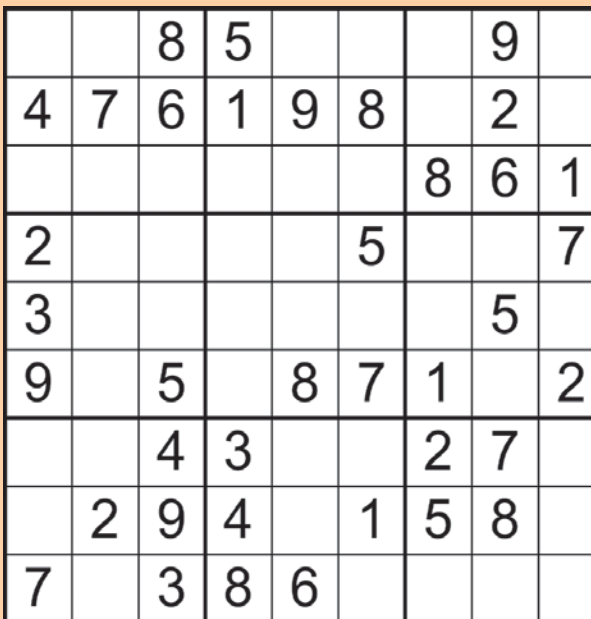
Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★

9/29

Answer to previous puzzle

2	9	7	3	5	4	8	6	1
4	3	8	9	6	1	2	7	5
6	5	1	7	8	2	3	9	4
8	2	5	6	3	9	4	1	7
3	7	4	5	1	8	6	2	9
9	1	6	2	4	7	5	8	3
5	4	2	1	7	6	9	3	8
1	8	9	4	2	3	7	5	6
7	6	3	8	9	5	1	4	2

Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/28

Arsenal scores two late goals to beat Newcastle and close in on Premier League leader Liverpool



Arsenal's Gabriel celebrates after the English Premier League soccer match between Newcastle and Arsenal at St James' Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025.

(AP Photo/Jon Super)

(AP) — Gabriel scored a 96th-minute winner as Arsenal came back to secure a dramatic 2-1 win against Newcastle in the Premier League on Sunday and close the gap on leader Liverpool.

The defender rose to head in a stoppage-time corner that moved Mikel Arteta's team up to second in the standings and two points behind defending champion Liverpool.

A day later and it was Arsenal's turn to produce a late flourish after trailing much of the match, following Nick Woltemade's goal in the 34th.

Mikel Merino leveled the game with a header in the 84th and Gabriel sealed three points deep into time added on.

Earlier, Aston Villa won for the first time in the league this season with a 3-1 victory against Fulham.

More late drama

For a second week running Arsenal needed a late rescue act.

A 93rd-minute goal from Gabriel Martinelli salvaged a 1-1 draw against Man-

chester City last week. And Merino's goal - a glancing header into the bottom corner - looked like rescuing another point.

Even with that, there would still have been the feeling of an opportunity missed for Arsenal after Liverpool's defeat at Palace. Any sense of frustration, however, turned into pure joy when Gabriel headed in from close range.

Gabriel dropped to his knees at the final whistle and, with both fists clenched, roared in celebration. He and his teammates will have known the potential significance of the win, which puts pressure on a Liverpool team

that has needed a succession of late goals itself to avoid dropping points this season. One of those came against Newcastle in August when Rio Ngumoha scored in the 10th minute of added time to secure a 3-2 win.

This was a case of history repeating itself for Newcastle, but Arsenal could point to a number of occasions when it was denied by luck, VAR or the brilliance of goalkeeper Nick Pope.

The visitors were awarded a penalty in the first half when Pope brought down Viktor Gyokeres in the box. But after a VAR review, referee Jarred Gillett overturned the decision, deeming Pope to have touched the ball first, even if he did take down Gyokeres afterward.

Leandro Trossard hit the post soon after, while Pope also blocked two goal-bound efforts from Eberechi Eze and another from Jurrien Timber.

Relief for Villa

Two goals in as many minutes in the second half sealed a comeback win for Villa after Fulham had taken an early lead through Raul Jimenez.

Ollie Watkins leveled the game before halftime and John McGinn and Emiliano Buendia struck shortly after the break to help Villa to a league win at the sixth time

of asking at the start of the season.

Victory provided relief for coach Unai Emery, who has endured a difficult start to the campaign. The Spaniard, who led Villa to Champions League qualification in his first full season in charge and into the Europa League last term, has found his team battling at the wrong end of the standings in the opening weeks of this campaign after two losses and three draws.

And when Jimenez headed Fulham in front in the third minute, it looked like being another frustrating day.

But Watkins scored his first goal of the season by lobbing Fulham goalkeeper Bernd Leno in the 37th.

McGinn drove a low shot from around 20 yards (meters) into the bottom corner four minutes into the second half and Buendia fired in from close range two minutes later. □



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Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Trupial: Tel. 583 8560

San Nicolas:

Aloe: Tel. 584 4606

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank	Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired	Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous	Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous	Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia Relacional	Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes	Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention	Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club	Tel. 525 2672

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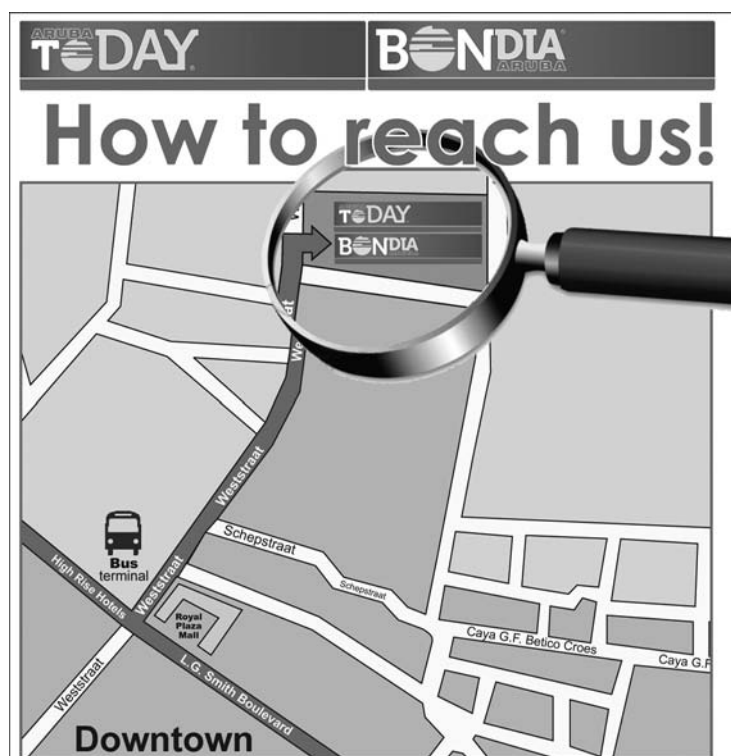


ARUBA TODAY NEWS

LOOKING FOR

a short term
DUTCH VILLAGE
Contract with 10 years
or less left
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325751



'One Battle After Another' opens with \$22.4 million

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "One Battle After Another," Paul Thomas Anderson's widely acclaimed American epic of rebellion and resistance, opened with \$22.4 million in ticket sales from North American theaters over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Anderson's ultracontemporary opus signifies a major gamble by Warner Bros. With "One Battle After Another," the studio is making a \$130 million-plus bet that audiences would come out for 170-minute-long powerhouse drama from one of cinema's most celebrated auteurs the way they usually only turn up for a franchise or superhero movie.

Anderson, many critics said, delivered the movie of year. "One Battle After Another," starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Teyana Taylor and Sean Penn, has been hailed as a film brimming with many of the political conflicts of today. Oscar prognosticators have pegged it this year's best-picture front-runner. Aided by DiCaprio's drawing power, the film added \$26.1 million overseas.

But good reviews, star power and a marquee filmmaker are nowadays often insufficient to make a hit. For a movie that cost at least \$130 million to make, plus many millions more to market, "One Battle After Another" will have a long road to reach profitability. For most releases with such a high budget, a \$22.4 million start would be a disappointment.

Executives for Warner Bros. declined to be interviewed about the opening.

Yet "One Battle After Another," like movies from earlier movie eras, will hope its time in theaters is more about the long run than opening



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Leonardo DiCaprio in a scene from "One Battle After Another."

(Warner Bros. Pictures via AP)

weekend. Warners is hoping word-of-mouth, awards conversation and a rolling awareness that "One Battle After Another" is a major movie event, will keep ticket sales strong in the weeks, or even months, to come. Some signs suggest that's possible. Audiences gave "One Battle After Another" an "A" CinemaScore. That's far better than CinemaScores for previous Anderson wide releases, including 1997's "Boogie Nights" ("C"), 1999's "Magnolia" ("C-") and 2002's "Punch-Drunk Love" ("D+).

"The long-term playability is going to be key for this," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "And given the outpouring of support by critics and audiences, alike, that's where it's going to make back its budget."

Yet as highly regarded as Anderson is, his films have rarely made a big

impact at the box office. His biggest hit was 2007's "There Will Be Blood," which collected \$76.4 million worldwide.

For Warner Bros., "One Battle After Another" marked its ninth movie this year to open No. 1, more than any other studio. That success — with \$4 billion in global sales — has included some refreshingly original films that haven't always made their most obvious way into theaters.

Warners released Ryan Coogler's "Sinners" in April, and it went on to gross \$366.7 million worldwide. "One Battle After Another" chose to opt out of the usual fall festival platforms for prestige films, and first screened while most critics were in Venice or Toronto. Yet "Sinners" and "One Battle After Another" will likely be favorites for many of the same prizes in the coming awards season.

Anderson's film, loosely inspired by Thomas Pynchon's "Vineland," stars DiCaprio as a former revolutionary living off the grid with his teenage daughter (Chase Infiniti). Shot in VistaVision, "One Battle After Another" played in several large-screen formats, including 70mm, IMAX, 70mm and, on four screens, in VistaVision.

Second place went "Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie." The Universal Pictures release, produced by DreamWorks Animation, grossed \$13.5 million in 3,500 theaters. It's a good start for the G-rated film, based on the long-running series. "Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie," which cost \$32 million to make, also earned an "A+" CinemaScore from audiences. After two weeks atop the charts Sony Pictures and Crunchyroll's sleeper hit "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle" slid to third place. It added \$7.1 million to its \$118.1 million haul, a North American record for anime releases.

Top 10 movies by domestic box office

With final domestic figures being released Monday, this list factors in the estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore:

1. "One Battle After Another,"
2. "Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie,"
3. "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle," \$7.1 million.
4. "The Conjuring: Last Rites,"
5. "The Strangers: Chapter 2,"
6. "Him,"
7. "The Long Walk,"
8. "Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale,"
9. "They Call Him OG,"
10. "A Big Bold Beautiful Journey,"

Selena Gomez marries Benny Blanco: 'My wife in real life'



FILE - Selena Gomez, left, and Benny Blanco arrive at the 77th Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, at the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles.

(Photo by Richard Shotwell/Invision/AP, File)

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Selena Gomez has married music producer and

songwriter Benny Blanco, announcing the news in an Instagram post showing the

couple kissing and embracing on a lawn.

"My wife in real life," Blanco responded to the post Saturday by the Grammy- and Emmy-nominated performer. Gomez wore a white halter bridal dress with floral flourishes, and Blanco wore a tuxedo and bow tie, both custom-made by Ralph Lauren.

Paparazzi had snapped photos of a massive outdoor tent and other preparations in the Santa Barbara area.

Friends in the entertainment industry and brands she's linked to responded with heart emoji and congratulations. "Our Mabel

is MARRIED," said the account of her "Only Murders in the Building" series, and her Rare Beauty line of cosmetics posted: "so happy for you two." Best wishes were also sent by Camila Cabello, Amy Schumer and others.

Blanco, 37, and Gomez, 33, met about a decade ago and got engaged at the end of last year. They worked together on the 2019 song "I Can't Get Enough," which also featured J Balvin and Tainy.

Among the songs he's credited on as a writer and producer: Katy Perry's "Teenage Dream," "Circus" by Britney Spears and Maroon

5's "Moves Like Jagger."

Gomez, whose hits include "Calm Down," "Good for You," "Same Old Love" and "Come & Get It," has been in the spotlight since she was a child. She appeared on "Barney and Friends" before breaking through as a teen star on the Disney Channel's "Wizards of Waverly Place." She earned awards nominations in recent years for her ongoing role alongside Martin Short and Steve Martin in Hulu's "Only Murders in the Building." Gomez has a massive audience on social media with 417 million Instagram followers, the most for any woman on the platform.

Jaxson Dart's 15-yard touchdown run ignites Giants' offense on opening drive of his first start



New York Giants quarterback Jaxson Dart (6) is congratulated by teammates after scoring a touchdown against the Los Angeles Chargers during the first quarter of an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025, in East Rutherford, N.J.

(AP Photo/Adam Hunger)

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.
AP Pro Football Writer
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)

— Jaxson Dart ran for a 15-yard touchdown to cap an impressive 90-yard drive on the opening possession of his first game as the New York Giants' starting quarterback Sunday. Dart, the 25th overall pick out of Ole Miss in April, got the start against the undefeated Los Angeles Chargers in place of the benched Russell Wilson and the Giants' struggling offense was sparked by the rookie.

After the Chargers punted on their first series, Dart and the Giants took the field at their 10 — and the quarterback received a standing ovation from the MetLife Stadium crowd as he jogged from the sideline. His first snap was a handoff to Cam Skattebo and his first pass one play later to Malik Nabers fell incomplete, but Tarheeb Still was called for pass interference. Two plays later, Dart's first NFL completion went for 7 yards to Nabers. After Skattebo ran for 20 yards on the next two plays, Dart took off on runs of 9 and 4 yards to put the ball at the Chargers 28. Dart connected with a sliding Nabers — who was later carted from the field with an apparent right leg injury — for a 13-yard completion to make it first-and-10 at the 15. Dart then took the snap, wriggled up the middle and scooted into the end zone nearly untouched for a touchdown to put New York up 7-0 with 9:20 left in the opening quarter. Dart led the Giants on two

more scoring drives in the first half, field goals of 22 and 31 yards by Jude McAtamney. The rookie was 7 of 11 for 59 yards through two quarters and ran six times for 44 yards and the score. □



New York Giants quarterback Jaxson Dart (6) prays in the end zone before playing against the Los Angeles Chargers in an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025, in East Rutherford, N.J.

(AP Photo/Yuki Iwamura)



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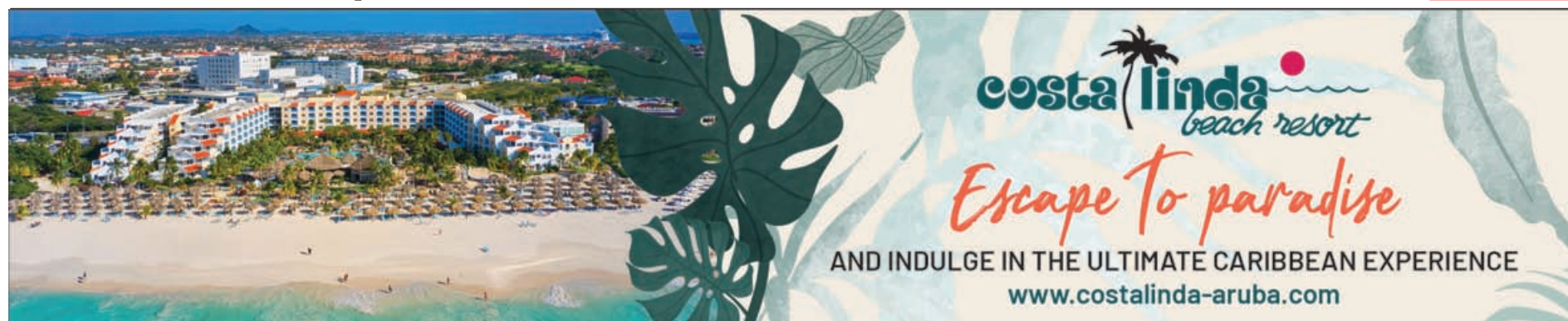
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Create precious memories in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort Water's Edge Restaurant offers the complete vacation experience!



(Eagle Beach) – Consider your family dinner plans taken care of at Water's Edge. Located in the heart of the Costa Linda Beach Resort and on the shores of the world-famous Eagle Beach in Aruba, Water's Edge offers an elegant yet cozy dining experience that the entire family can enjoy. Whether you're craving Steak, Seafood, International Dishes or a bit of the Caribbean flare, Water's Edge caters to all your culinary needs, all the while offering you a cozy and flexible service with a spectacular view of Aruba's top-rated sandy beaches.

Water's Edge's new menu has a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts all on one menu specially made just for you. From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. Flexible and professional service allows you to enjoy your meal in the cool and elegant indoor dining area, on the sandy, breezy beaches of Eagle Beach or by the open bar outside. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Water's Edge has it all for you, any time of the day.

Start your day off with a hearty breakfast. Water's Edge offers a variety of delicious breakfast items, including their house specialties of Avocado Toast, Chicken & Waffles made with homemade Belgium waffles and topped

with a gorgeous hot honey sauce. If you want something on the sweeter side, try their Crème Brûlée French Toast, served with an in-house mascarpone whip cream and topped with fresh fruit and powdered sugar. Or maybe the Traditional American Breakfast is more to your liking, complete with any kind of serving of eggs, bacon, sausage and toast, served with a side of hash browns.

For lunch, keep it easy with their handheld items like their Bacon and Cheddar Burger, Mediterranean Quesadillas or Street Tacos. Want a taste of the Caribbean? Try the Grouper Reuben; A local twist to the traditional Reuben, complete with rye bread, in-house 1000 island dressing, sauerkraut and grilled grouper, served with a side of Cajun Fries.

Dinner plans are set with Water's Edge mouthwatering dinner menu. Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the delectable Coconut Shrimp. You can also opt for their Water's Edge House Wedge Salad or freshly made Shrimp Louie Salad, made with poached shrimp, tossed in Louie dressing, fresh avocados and vine ripe tomatoes. For something a bit heartier, try their classic French Onion Soup, Lobster Bisque or Crab and Corn Chowder.

Follow your appetizers with your choice of Seafood, Chicken or Pasta dishes. Enjoy their succulent Shrimp and Clam Sauce with Angel Hair Pasta, a nice plate of Chicken Francese or explore the Water's Edge Fish Market—your pick of Mahi Mahi, Snapper, Grouper or Salmon, served with homemade mashed potatoes, sauce of choice and fresh herbs and vegetables.

Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of Steak, including a Petite Filet, French Rack of Lambs or their famous 14oz pan-seared Pork finished with a fantastic apple glaze. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi-glace, mushroom sauce, chimichurri or bacon blue cheese butter. Enjoy it with a side of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, and four different types of fries. Combine your meal with your personal



choice of international and exclusive wines.

Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled Kids Menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests.

End the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness. Choose from a variety of dessert options, including a piece of coconut flan, NY cheesecake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Live entertainment

For seven nights a week, there is live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, every night is a relaxing experience under the stars, where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Water's Edge prides itself on bringing elegance and comfort to your dining experience, offering personalized service fit for everybody's needs.

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 or + 297 586 9494 (direct), or reserve your table online at reservations@watersedgearuba.com. For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedgearuba.com

